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APHORISMS OF GERAINT.

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THE SEVEN PRIMARY MATERIALS OF THE WORLD*.

1. Earth; and whence every body and density and every substance and strength.
2. Water; and whence every liquid and moisture.
3. Air; and whence every breath and motion.
4. Sun; and whence all heat and light.
5. Empyreum; and whence every sensation, appetite, and affection.
6. Pure Spirit; and whence every perception.
7. God; and whence all life and power, and support unto world of worlds.

And from these seven primary essences are all being and life: and on the order of God may the whole rest. Amen saith the Blue Bard of the Chair †.

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

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LETTER IX.

Bishop PERCY to the Rev. EVAN EVANS; (no date).

DEAR SIR,—I received the favour of your obliging letter and the valuable present of the two British Odes translated into English. They have afforded me great pleasure, and they display a rich vein of poetry. I think a select collection of such pieces, thrown into a shilling pamphlet, would not fail to prove as acceptable to the public as the Erse Fragments, and would be far more satisfactory, because you could remove all suspicions of their genuineness, which, I am afraid, Mr. Macpherson is not able to do. I observe with you a remarkable similarity between our Runic and your British pieces. As our Runic Poetry will be fit for

* Arch. of Wales, vol. iii. p. 109.

† This was the common designation of the celebrated Aserius Meneven-sis, whose proper *cognomen* was Geraint, or Geraint Vardd Glas, Geraint the Blue Bard. He was a Monk of the Benedictine Order at St. David's, and was afterwards, on account of his superior talents, made Bishop of Sherbourne by Alfred, by whom he continued to be held in great repute. Caradog records his death in the following words:—"Aser the Wise, Arch-bishop of the Britons, died A. D. 906."